

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1. A method of business in which GPS golf-course map data is collected and distributed, comprising

    a step of registering GPS map data on a plurality of golf courses in a database connected to a network,

    a step of accessing said database through said network, retrieving said GPS map data on a desired golf course among said plurality of golf courses, from said database, and downloading and thereby offering said retrieved GPS map data to a user terminal device, and

    a step of preparing data for use in charging a user for use of said offered GPS map data.

2. A method of business in which GPS golf-course map data is collected and distributed according to claim 1, wherein said GPS map data on said plurality of golf courses is uploaded to said database through said network.

3. A method of business in which GPS golf-course map data is collected and distributed according to claim 1, wherein said network is internet or telephone lines.

4. A method of business in which GPS golf-course map data is collected and distributed according to claim 1, wherein said user terminal device has a GPS function and a display device adapted to display said GPS map data and a current position of said user.

5. A method of business in which GPS golf-course map data is collected and distributed according to claim 1, wherein said GPS map data stored in said database includes timer information or counter information, and said user terminal device has a timer function or a counter function that works with said timer information or said counter information.

6. A method of business in which GPS golf-course map data is collected and distributed according to claim 1, wherein said GPS map data stored in said database includes optional information.

7. A method of business in which GPS golf-course map data is collected and distributed according to claim 6, wherein said optional information includes at least one of two kinds of information, that is, advisory information regarding an optimal approach to playing a hole of golf and information on similar holes of golf at other golf courses.

8. A method of business in which GPS golf-course map data is collected and distributed according to claim 6, wherein attributes or golf-play records of said user or information on discounts to be provided to said user is registered in said database, and said optional information is selectively offered to said user terminal device based on said attributes or golf-play records of said user.

9. A method of business in which GPS golf-course map data is collected and distributed according to any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein said GPS map data is prepared by correcting map data obtained from satellite pictures by using data obtained from actual measurements of configurations of individual holes of a golf course, a distance to a cup, configuration of a green, position and configuration of a bunker, and other measurements.